

Presently, the leadership of the church encompasses Pastor Bernard McKinley, Sr.; Deacons: Steve Adams, Tywon Alexander, Sr., Jesse Burns, Jr., Michael Green, Albert Lewis, Sr., Kenneth Ray Lewis, Terrence Sanders, and Bernard McKinley, Jr.; Deaconesses/Mothers: Linda Adams, Earnestine Alexander, Ola Cotton, Flora Green, Fannie Lewis, and Alberta Williams; Trustees Susie Carter, Edward Cotten, Wayne Gaddis, Vera Gaddis, Bobby Kirksey, and Mollie Bell McCray; Church Secretary, Sister Carolyn G. Price; and Sunday School Superintendent, Sister Johnnie M. Thompson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mount Elizabeth Missionary Baptist Church for serving as a pillar of steadfast dedication, providing an ever growing spiritual place of worship within the Bolton community for 150 years.

CONGRATULATING SUGAR LAND PARKS AND RECREATION

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 28, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sugar Land Parks and Recreation on being named the Texas Recreation and Parks Society's "2014 Texas Gold Medal Award Winner" in the 50,000 to 100,000 population category. This award recognizes communities who excel in resource management, park planning, and coordinating community programs and events.

Over the past three years, Sugar Land Parks and Recreation has gone above and beyond to improve our community. It established the Sugar Land Legacy Foundation to facilitate park project donations, doubled programmable space for seniors, and acquired 281 acres for future parks. Sugar Land commissioned an "Art in Parks and Public Spaces" program for community enjoyment and updated the Hike and Bike Trail Plan to encourage healthy and active lifestyles. Sugar Land Parks and Recreation also opened the City's first Indoor Recreation Center, featuring space for classes and events, as well as a gymnasium, kitchen, exercise rooms, and activity space. This award is a testament to the hard work of Sugar Land Parks and Recreation employees and their dedication to making Sugar Land a better place for all.

On behalf of all residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, it's an honor to recognize Sugar Land Parks and Recreation on earning this prestigious award. We are all very proud of your hard work.

HONORING THE CAREER OF RON WHITEHEAD

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 28, 2014

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Ron Whitehead the city manager of Addison, Texas, who is retiring today, February 28, after nearly 32 years of service for the Town of Addison and over a decade more in other Texas municipalities.

Mr. Whitehead was raised in Orange, Texas, where he learned about city management from his father who was a city councilman and mayor. He participated in student government and graduated Stark High School in 1967. After graduating from Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas, with a degree in Government in 1971, he started interning for the City of Beaumont and eventually became the assistant director of personnel. Mr. Whitehead began work as the administrative assistant to the city manager in Irving, Texas, in 1974 and in 1977 became the assistant city manager for administration. He earned his Masters in Public Administration degree from the University of North Texas in 1980 and became the general supervisory assistant city manager in Irving the following year.

In June of 1982, Mr. Whitehead became the city manager of Addison and he has served that role until today. Over the decades, Mr. Whitehead helped Addison transform from a small town with a handful of businesses to a bustling center with approximately 1,600 registered businesses. In 1982 there were 200 family households in Addison, and today the population numbers 15,000. Today Addison has 260 full-time employees and an annual budget of \$60 million. As city manager, Mr. Whitehead helped build up the modern city with multiple projects such as Wheeler Bridge, Addison Circle, Vitruvian Park, and the Addison Airport Toll Tunnel. The Dallas North Tollway came through Addison during his tenure as well. Future projects that the city will continue to develop include work on Addison Airport, a pedestrian connectivity effort, and underground utilities along Belt Line Road.

His long-standing passion for people, service, and making a difference have earned Mr. Whitehead many board positions and awards during his 32 years in Addison. In 2006 he received the Texas City Management Association's Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2009 he was named Metrocrest Citizen of the Year by the Metrocrest Chamber of Commerce, which represents Carrollton, Farmers Branch, and Addison, Texas. He earned the William J. Pitstick Regional Excellence Award in 2013 and was commended for his strong commitment to regionalism and collaboration with neighboring cities with regard to transportation, services, art, and planning. Mr. Whitehead has also been the recipient of a distinguished alumni award from the University of North Texas, the L.P. Cookingham Award for Career Development from the International City Management Association (ICMA), as well as recognition from the ICMA on his 35th anniversary of municipal service. Among his roles in numerous associations, he has been particularly active in the Greater Dallas Planning Council, the North Texas City Management Association, the North Dallas Chamber of Commerce, and the Metroplex Mayors Association.

Mr. Whitehead has been married to his wife Donna for 27 years and they have two daughters, Maxey and Lauren. Donna is an elementary school music teacher in Good Shepherd Episcopal School and also plans to retire soon. They are involved in church and civic activities, and intend to travel together in the coming years.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Ron Whitehead on his 32 years of serv-

ice as city manager of Addison and wishing him well in retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF TIOGA STATE BANK

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 28, 2014

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th Anniversary of Tioga State Bank. Reaching this milestone is a testament to the hard work and commitment displayed by the Fisher family, which has operated the bank for five generations since its inception in 1864.

Over the past 150 years, Tioga State Bank has been a beacon of excellence in our community. It has continuously displayed steadfast dedication to providing financial services, creating local jobs and contributing to a vibrant economy while faithfully serving the needs of its constituents. The bank has also embraced community service, demonstrated by a recent \$20,000 donation to local food pantries in New York's 23rd Congressional District.

A core principle contributing to the success of Tioga State Bank is the commitment to "financially conservative" banking practices. This standard has enabled Tioga State Bank to stand the test of time through changing cultural and economic conditions. The business's proven track record of local job creation and economic impact has enabled Tioga State Bank to open new branches and expand into neighboring regions.

I once again congratulate Tioga State Bank on achieving 150 years of banking, service and commitment to caring for the local community. The bank is a strong example of entrepreneurial spirit and a small business's ability to blossom into an established and respected institution. I am proud to recognize this great achievement and I look forward to witnessing the continued growth and success of Tioga State Bank.

HONORING NEW GREEN GROVE CHURCH OF FAITH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 28, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable historical church, New Green Grove Church of Faith of Greenwood, Mississippi and the great leadership it is under.

Green Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Greenwood, Mississippi was founded in 1909. It was founded by a dedicated group of people who wanted a place to worship. Services were held each fourth Sunday. In 1965, Green Grove M.B. Church was destroyed by fire and was completely rebuilt 1½ years later.

Since the church's inception, it has served under nine pastors and several outstanding officers. Reverend Milton L. Young, the eighth pastor, served for a period of fifty-four years. Reverend Young was a wonderful pastor. Under his leadership many souls were brought to Christ.

In 1995, Pastor Young's health began to fail. He suffered a stroke causing paralysis to his left leg. Reverend Milton Glass presided briefly in his absence and in July of 1995, Pastor Glass was elected "shepherd over the flock" with 25 active members.

The Church's name was changed in 1995 to New Green Grove M.B. Church. Today, it is called New Green Grove Church of Faith. From October, 1995 to August, 1996, New Green Grove began holding its services at Jones Chapel #1 because of costly water problems in its building. Easter Sunday of 2001, New Green Grove Church of Faith celebrated the dedication of its current sanctuary. On February 10, 2008, the church held its Mortgage Burning Service to celebrate the completion of their mortgage.

Under Bishop Glass' leadership, many services have been added to spiritually feed the members of the church. Worship is every Sunday with the exception of the fifth Sunday. Sunday School, Bible study and Intercessory Prayer Service are included in their weekly worship schedule.

Over the years, the pastor and members of New Green Grove Church of Faith have added spiritual growth programs to help the church become more knowledgeable of the Gospel. Some of these programs are: New Membership Orientation, Men of Standard Men's Ministry, Saturday Early Morning Prayer Service and an active Missionary Society.

The Congregational Health Ministry is an ongoing ministry to help the members take care of themselves physically, while maturing spiritually. Also established is the church website which is www.newgreengrovechurchoffaith.org. In 2010 the Audio/Visual Ministry was instituted which included the CD/DVD tape ministry.

On May 19, 2002 the sister church, The Living Word Church, a division of Catch the Vision Ministries was established in Lake City, Florida under the leadership of Pastors Vernon and Mitzi Singleton with Bishop Milton Glass as the overseer.

With the need to transport their members to and from services the church purchased a church bus in 2002. The bus served its purpose, however; in 2009, it was sold and replaced with a second van and a 25 passenger bus. The transportation ministry is always ready to assist the members who don't have a ride to church.

With the increase of its membership over the years, New Green Grove had to physically expand. One area of expansion is the purchase of twenty acres of land in 2003 located across the street from the church. In 2009, part of that land was converted into a parking lot to assist with the overflow of parking. Future plans and the vision of Bishop Glass is to use the remainder of the land to build a Spiritual Life Center to further support the outreach ministry in the community.

Currently, they are adding 4,500 sq. ft. for additional classrooms and fellowship hall space. Today, they have over 700 members with an average attendance of 400 each Sunday.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing New Green Grove Church of Faith for its contribution to the black community and black churches.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 28, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,410,830,777,447.36. We've added \$6,783,953,728,534.28 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.7 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

STATE AND LOCAL PREDATORY ENFORCEMENT ACT

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 28, 2014

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, since the mid-1990's the authority to regulate the towing industry had been in limbo. Through a provision slipped into the Federal Aviation Administration Act of 1994 that defined the tow truck industry as an interstate carrier exempt from state and local regulation. One year later, passage of the Interstate Commerce Termination Act eliminated the federal regulatory body that oversaw the towing industry, leaving the industry without proper federal, state or local regulation.

With no federal regulator, confusing restrictions and conflicting court rulings on what states and localities are permitted to regulate, no level of government has been able to adequately regulate the towing industry. This lack of regulatory authority has led to more than two decades of major consumer abuses by some unscrupulous towing companies. These bad operators have continued to taint an otherwise much needed and respectable profession.

Complaints about exorbitant towing fees and abusive operators grew so bad that in 2005, Congress agreed, through an amendment to the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act—a Legacy of Users (SAFETEA-LU), to allow some limited state regulation in the area of non-consensual towing. The amendment also directed the Secretary of Transportation to conduct a study to identify additional means to protect the rights of individuals whose vehicles are towed.

That study offers some recommendations that track with conclusions I made several years ago, that consumers and tow truck operators would be better served by removing the last vestiges of federal preemption. It notes that consumers needing redress for overcharges today or other unfair treatment would no longer be in the Catch-22 position of having their State case thrown out on preemption grounds only to find that they may have no real recourse at the Federal level either. Since business practices vary from place to place, it may also be more practical to have non-consensual towing regulated by the States rather than by the Federal Government.

States are the more logical place to regulate towing. They already have an established

body of law in place to do so. This bill would bring those laws back into effect by removing federal preemption and allow state and local governments the ability to establish common-sense, pro-consumer trespass towing protections for their residents.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

HONORING ROBERT JAMISON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 28, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Robert Jamison.

Robert Jamison was born in Quitman County in 1954. He was a student in the Quitman County School System. In 1968, he was among the first blacks to integrate schools in Quitman County, Mississippi.

Mr. Jamison also marched with Dr. Martin L. King. He helped with changing from the "Old Stacked Voter System to the Ward Voting System", in order for blacks to have equal representation when voting. He worked as a Social Service Director at Quitman County Development Organization. He also served on numerous boards such as: North MS Legal service, Housing Authority's, Deporres Health Center and Selective Service System.

Mr. Jamison is a Quitman County Veteran Service Officer and is the founder of a non-profit organization, North Delta Youth Development Center.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Robert Jamison for his dedication in being a part of the history making in Quitman County, Mississippi.

RECOGNIZING THE DELEGATION OF THE NATIONAL CEREAL PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION OF POLAND

HON. BILL FLORES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 28, 2014

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following.

Whereas, The United States House of Representatives recognizes the delegation of the National Cereal Producers Association of Poland; and

Whereas, The twenty-eight members in the delegation of the Polish farmers and representatives of agricultural producer organizations to include the Polish Association of Cereals Producers, the Polish Agro-Business Club, the Polish Federation of Cattle Breeders and Milk Producers Zamojskie Agriculture Association are actively involved as agricultural leaders in Poland; and

Whereas, The Polish delegation's mission is to study Texas agriculture and oil & gas industries working in tandem in a safe and healthy environment making Texas the 11th largest economy in the world; and

Whereas, The goals of the program are to provide insight and educational information into United States agriculture and oil & gas industries, identify potential investments, enhance export and import opportunities and